

Foreword

The aim of the CERN Accelerator School (CAS) to collect, preserve, and disseminate the knowledge accumulated in the world's accelerator laboratories applies not only to general accelerator physics, but also to related sub-systems, equipment, and technologies. This wider aim is achieved by means of specialized courses. For 2008, the topic of the course was Beam Diagnostics and it was held at the Hotel 'Le Normont', France, from 28 May to 6 June 2008.

The topic of Beam Diagnostics had never been treated in the framework of specialized CAS courses, but was retained on two occasions for the Joint Accelerator Schools (JAS), namely in 1988 in Capri, Italy, and in 1998 in Montreux, Switzerland. However, after ten years and considering the enormous developments achieved in the field, it was unanimously felt that there was an urgent need to present an updated version of the previous course.

The present course was made possible by the active collaboration provided by the Synchrotron Light machine SOLEIL and many individuals. In particular, the contributions of the management and staff of SOLEIL, and especially the enthusiastic contribution of the Local Organizing Committee composed of S. Podgorny and J.-C. Denard were most valuable. Similarly, the help of A. Mosnier (CEA) in identifying the venue was highly appreciated.

The generous financial support provided by J.-M. Filhol (Directeur de la Division Sources et Accélérateurs of the Synchrotron SOLEIL) as well as the successful efforts of the Local Organizing Committee to identify sponsors allowed CAS and the Local Organizers to cover some costs inherent to the school and, even more important, to offer scholarships to highly deserving young students, who otherwise would not have been able to attend the school.

As always, the backing of the CERN management, the guidance of the CAS Advisory and Programme Committees, the attention to detail of the Local Organizing Committee and the management and staff of the Hotel 'Le Normont' ensured that the school was held under optimum conditions.

Very special thanks must go to the lecturers for the enormous task of preparing, presenting, and writing up their topics.

Finally, the enthusiasm of the participants who came from more than 24 different countries around the world was convincing proof of the usefulness and success of the course.

It is my pleasure and privilege to thank most sincerely all those persons who helped me to make the course a success, including Barbara Strasser and the team of the CERN Scientific Text Processing Service for their dedication and commitment to the production of this document.

Daniel Brandt
CERN Accelerator School